

## PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

### WHAT IS THE PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE?

Leadership development for public health officials is important for several reasons:

- Public health leaders often lack formal academic preparation to deal with management and leadership challenges which occupy the majority of work time.
- Demographic trends, along with reduced resources and the lack of organizational succession plans, have increased the need for new skills for our leaders.
- Complex issues and problems confronting the public health system have increased the need for strong communication, collaboration, team building, and planning skills by public health leaders.

### WHAT HAS CDC ACCOMPLISHED?

CDC supports several national, state, and international efforts to develop public health leaders. In partnership with academic institutions and national organizations, CDC supports the National Public Health Leadership Institute (PHLI), the Public Health Leadership Society, the Management Academy for Public Health (MAPH), the National Public Health Leadership Development Network, 18 state and regional leadership institutes, and the CDC/ATSDR Leadership and Management Institute. Our partners leverage CDC funds many times over with support from other sources.

#### *Example of Program in Action*

Since 1990, over 750 senior public health officials have participated in PHLI and over 1,550 have participated in one of the 18 state and regional leadership institutes. Additionally, over 600 state and local health officials have completed management training in the MAPH. Last year, state and local public health officials from Nevada and Utah met to begin developing a regional leadership development program that will provide advanced training to senior level officials in the Great Basin region, which stretches from the Rocky Mountains to the Sierra Nevada. In 2004, the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute began the recruitment process for its first class of scholars.

### WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

CDC will continue to support the existing network of leadership development programs at the national, state, and regional level. Additional state-based leadership programs are being developed in Nebraska and Minnesota. Through the development of new learning techniques and technologies, opportunities for leadership development will be offered to new audiences such as emerging leaders, workers in underserved rural and urban areas, and those whose work intersects with public health, such as representatives of faith based organizations, tribal communities, and community-based leaders.